

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NICOSI 01718 301540Z
ACTION SCSE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6072

UNCLAS NICOSIA 1718

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CARR
SUBJECT: LEGAL REPRESENTATION AVAILABLE TO AMERICANS ARRESTED
ABOARD.

REF: STATE 147704

1. ACCORDING TO THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE GOC MINISTRY OF JUSTICE, FREE (PUBLICLY-FUNDED) LEGAS ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE WHEN THE INTERESTS OF JUSTICE SO REQUIRE AND UPON PRESENTATION OF EVIDENCE THAT THE ACCUSED DOES NOT HAVE SUFFICIENT MEANS TO ENGAGE AN ADVOCATE HIMSELF. IN THE CASE OF AN AMERICAN CITIZEN, A CERTIFICATE FROM AN EMBASSY OFFICIAL WOULD SATISFY THE LATTER REQUIREMENT;

2. PUBLICLY-FUNDED LEGAL REPRESENTATION IS READILY AVAILABLE AND IS APPOINTED BY THE COURT FROM AMONG PRIVATE PRATISING ATTORNEYS. IF THE ACCUSED ASKS FOR A SPECIFIC ATTORNEY, THE COURT WILL REQUEST THAT ATTORNEY TO DEFEND HIM. SUCH REQUESTS ARE NORMALLY ACCEPTED.

3. ARREST CASES HAVE NOT BEEN A PROBLEM AT THIS POST. PRESENT PERSONNEL CANNOT RECALL A COURT CASE INVOLVING PUBLICLY-FUNDED DEFENSE OF AN AMERICAN CITIZEN. BASED ON OTHER CASES, WE HAVE NO REASON
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TO BELIEVE OTHER THAN THAT COURT-APPOINTED DEFENSE WOULD BE ADEQUATE AND THAT THE ACCUSED WOULD RECEIVE THE FULL PROTECTION OF THE LAW.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Reason:
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